

# THE SUMPTER MINER.

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## GEN. WARREN ARRIVES.

### TALKS ENCOURAGINGLY OF THE FUTURE OF SUMPTER.

**Backed by Money, Influence and Experience—Syndicate has Other Huge Projects in Hand—Result of Its Operations Already Raises Realty Values Here—Survey Will Begin at Once.**

General C. S. Warren, accompanied by Mrs. Warren, reached Sumpter Tuesday. They will remain here until snow flies and then take an extended trip south and east, combining business and pleasure.

Of course, every one was anxious to hear what General Warren had to say relative to the intentions of himself and associates regarding the promotion of the progress and up-building of this town, in which they have recently acquired much the larger interest; and since his arrival he has been surrounded by eager inquirers. There is nothing secretive about the man; he has an open, above board character and talks freely to all comers, whether they be overalled laborers who wish to secure a lot on which to build an humble home, or capitalists seeking heavy investments. To a comprehensive question, as to his intentions, plans and expectations for the present and future, from a MINER representative, the gentleman replied about as follows:

"As to all of our plans, some of which have not yet matured, I can, of course, say nothing at present. I will state, however, that though only the names of Mr. Calder and myself have been mentioned in connection with this deal, we are backed by men of ample means and large experience, and we have all the money that will be required to carry out any enterprise that will benefit Sumpter directly, or looks like a money maker in itself. The selling of town lots alone is by no means the principal object of the syndicate which we represent. This could almost be called merely a side issue, compared with our other projects, all of which, it is true, will tend to enhance the value of our large real estate holdings here. As a matter of fact, unlimited money, influence and experience are enlisted in this enterprise, and we are going to make Sumpter one of, if not the best mining camps in the Northwest.

"The people can already judge for themselves whether or not the fact that we have started to operate here has benefitted them and the town. More than thirty days ago we acquired nearly seven hundred acres adjoining and over 100 lots within the original townsite. We have as yet not sold one foot of this land. What is the result? Why, property has doubled in value in that brief period of time. Then there are many resident lots in the plat that could have been bought for fifty dollars each. Today I offered to buy every lot in town that would be sold for \$100. Thus far the offer has not resulted in the purchase of a single piece of property—I don't believe there is a \$100 lot in the town. You were right when you stated in THE MINER last week, on the authority of Mr. Calder, that we don't want to make all the money. We have already doubled the market value of the property owned here by the pioneers, and given them an opportunity to realize before offering our property for sale in competition with them. It will still be

several weeks—maybe thirty days longer—before we begin to sell, and every day of delay enhances the price of lots already platted.

"I today telegraphed for Mr. Worthington, a civil engineer living in Spokane, and he ought to arrive here Thursday evening. As soon as he does we will put two or three surveying crews in the field and rush that portion of the work to an early completion. The land platted first will be those tracts immediately adjacent to additions already platted; in order to even up the quarter sections. There are already several twenty and forty acre tracts divided into lots which are surrounded on three sides by our land. We will have lots for sale right alongside of all these old plats.

"We have not yet fixed the price of any lots, but have decided to sell for the same figure that property held by others in the same vicinity brings in the open market. There is to be no arbitrary methods pursued in the conduct of our business; nor any effort to take a dollar away from any one else by beating down the price of lots."

And when one listens to General Warren give utterance to these clear cut ideas, positive assertions and confident predictions, he is inspired with confidence in the man, feels that he hears the truth spoken by one who has both the ability and inclination to make good his words of hopeful promise.

### ENQUIRIES ABOUT SUMPTER.

**Letters Beginning to Pour in on "The Miner" from All Quarters.**

Last week 1,000 copies of THE MINER were distributed. The names on the list to whom papers were mailed were carefully selected, most of them being men who are actively interested in mining. Others were names of men who are always looking for a "good thing" and have money to invest whenever such a proposition presents itself.

Already this work has begun to bear fruit; letters of enquiry about the town, the mining district, and a score of other subjects, congratulating the publishers on the appearance and style of the paper and ordering future issues, are arriving daily—not one or two at a time, but by the dozen.

All over the Northwest are men who are looking for a more favorable location to engage in business and an opportunity to invest money with some hope of reaping a profit. Such men are usually the very best citizens that a town can acquire; they are failures in no sense of the word, but men who cannot endure the business stagnation of a dull town, because they have lived in lively ones. They are generally enterprising rustlers, rolling stones in a measure, perhaps; but excellent material with which to build a town, nevertheless. All that is necessary for Sumpter to do to secure many such, is to advertise to the world just exactly the situation here, without any rose tint coloring or exaggeration.

### Built a House Here in 1861.

D. S. Littlefield, who resides at Auburn, was in Sumpter Monday. There is no better known person in all this part of the country than Mr. Littlefield, he having first come here with a party of twenty-three prospectors in 1861—packing their supplies from Walla Walla, and locating near where he and the others built the first log house, the remains of which are now known to many as Fort Sumpter, about one and a half miles from town.

## FREIGHT RECEIPTS.

### LARGE QUANTITIES OF MINING MACHINERY INCLUDED.

**Twenty-seven Carloads in Three Months—Grand Total of 279 Carloads, or 3,660,000 Pounds—Accurate Statistics of Vast Quantities of All Varieties of Freight Received.**

J. R. Smurthwaite, agent of the Sumpter Valley railway, has kindly furnished THE MINER, with some interesting statistics regarding freight receipts at this station during the months of June, July and August. The amount in pounds during these ninety days is 3,660,000; June 980,000, July 1,260, August 1,220,000.

The most significant item, that which tells the story of our wonderful progress in the mining industry, is found in the large amount of mining machinery which has been unloaded at Sumpter during the past three months and hauled by wagon to the mines in the adjoining mountains; twenty-seven car loads in all. Perhaps a dozen car loads have already been received during the present month, and "there are others."

Of this machinery, ten cars were consigned to Evans, Hole & Larkins, owners of the Cougar mine; four to W. L. Vinson, for the Maiden's Dream; four for the Columbia, Frank S. Bally, vice president, Theo. L. Lammers, manager; four for the Bonanza, Standard Oil people owner; two for the Great Northern, Isaac Guker et al. owners, and three car loads for various mines.

By far the largest quantity of freight received is classed under the head of general merchandise, 151 car loads being the record for three months to September 1; grain 32, flour 9, rock 6, powder 1, hogs 11, lumber and shingles 12, brick 4, ice 5, hay 13, salt 3, wagons 1, nails 2, lime 1, making a total of 279.

And this is a record which no town that four months since had a population of not exceeding 500 inhabitants can break or equal. No wonder the Sumpter Valley rail road pays a dividend of from forty to sixty per cent annually.

### Wholesale House for Sumpter.

John Gaglen, widely and favorably known in eastern Oregon, has been in Sumpter for several days past looking for a business location. Not being able to secure a building for himself, he finally succeeded in buying the interest of Walter W. Looney, in the Phoenix saloon, formerly owned Looney & Sloan. He will at once remodel the interior of the place, and engage in the wholesale and jobbing trade, putting in a large and complete line of liquors and other goods usually carried by such houses. The variety theater, in the rear, will be closed at once and in its place bottling works will be installed, for the manufacture of soda and mineral waters. Mr. Gaglen is a welcome and valuable addition to the Sumpter business community.

### A. P. Goss Will be Here Friday.

Attorney McCulloch has received a letter from A. P. Goss, St. Paul, instructing him to let the contract for his brick bank block on Mill street, to be two stories high. About the same time the letter was received a telegram came announcing his departure for the west, stating that he will arrive in Sumpter Friday evening.

Mr. McCulloch has therefore deferred the letting of the contract until Mr. Goss' arrival. Work will then be hastened, the building completed and the bank opened for business just as soon as possible.

### INFORMATION FOR OUTSIDERS.

#### Regarding General Conditions Prevailing In and Around Sumpter.

In reply to many letters of enquiry asking all sorts of questions about Sumpter, THE MINER is constrained to give a general reply through these columns, it being impossible to answer all letters.

Here on the ground it looks as if the townsite were situated in a low valley, being surrounded on all sides by high mountains. There is no question about being in a valley, but its elevation above the sea level is 4,429 feet. Some garden vegetables are raised here by Chinamen, but frosts come at such uncertain times that there is no assurance that the vegetables will ever reach maturity. At the homes of the pioneers there are vines covering many of the houses, and some hardy flowers are found in the yards, though little attention has been paid to these matters as yet.

As to climate, the word of old settlers must be taken. The winters, measured by the time snow remains on the ground, are long, from five to six months. Snow begins to fall usually the latter part of October, but rarely "comes to stay" until thirty days later. It is rarely ever extremely cold, compared with Dakota or eastern British Columbia weather, the mercury generally remaining above the zero mark. In summer the weather is quite warm during the day time, but as in most mountainous regions, the nights are cool.

The chief industries of this section, mining and logging, are not interfered with by winter weather; though prospecting is, of course, suspended entirely. Snow does not come in terrific storms, and as there is little wind to drift it, the mountain roads remain open all winter, and in fact, hauling over them is much easier than in the spring, when the mud is deep, and summer, when the dust is deep and annoying. Trains on the Sumpter Valley road never stop running on account of snow blockades.

The country is healthy to an unusual degree. Regarding business opportunities here at Sumpter, THE MINER will not say a word, merely suggesting that the only satisfactory way to acquire such information is to visit the camp and each individual judge for himself.

### Contest Goes to Higher Court.

A case of trespass against F. S. Bickford and Thomas Downey, with J. B. Stoddard as complaining witness, came up for hearing before Judge Stott Monday. The premises involved is held by Mr. Stoddard and wife as a placer location and has since been filed on by Marion Beamers as a homestead. The defendants are supposed to be in the employ of the latter. Judge Stott decided that he has no jurisdiction and the case goes to a higher court for trial.

### Boarding House to be Opened October 1.

The boarding house which Mrs. E. W. Stanley is having built on North street will be finished by October 1. Mrs. R. D. Schreiber, who has leased the building, is now in Baker City buying the furniture and having the carpets cut and sewed, and will have all the stuff here ready for moving in as soon as the building is ready for its reception.